

Claims

1. A tuneable radio having an adjustable seek sensitivity, said radio comprising:
 - a radio receiver for receiving broadcast radio wave signals;
 - a tuner adjustable for selecting from a plurality of radio wave
 - 5 signal channels;
 - a detector for detecting signal strength of said received radio wave signals;
 - a seek input for initiating a seek operation to select a radio wave signal channel having a detected signal strength greater than a seek sensitivity
 - 10 threshold; and
 - a controller for receiving the detected signal strength of said received radio wave signals and adjusting the seek sensitivity threshold based on said detected signal strength.
2. The tuneable radio as defined in claim 1 further comprising a device for determining a signal indicative of vehicle travel, wherein said controller determines when to adjust said seek sensitivity threshold value based on said signal indicative of vehicle travel.
3. The tuneable radio as defined in claim 2, wherein said device comprises a position indicative receiver for receiving position indicative signals.
4. The tuneable radio as defined in claim 3, wherein said position indicative receiver comprises a global positioning system receiver for receiving global positioning system signals.

5. The tuneable radio as defined in claim 2, wherein said device comprises a timer for detecting a period of time during which the vehicle is driven.

6. The tuneable radio as defined in claim 2, wherein said device comprises an odometer for generating a distance measurement.

7. The tuneable radio as defined in claim 1, wherein said controller adjusts said seek sensitivity threshold when the tuner is in an inactive mode.

8. The tuneable radio as defined in claim 7, wherein said controller adjusts said seek sensitivity threshold when the radio is operating in a playback mode.

9. The tuneable radio as defined in claim 1, wherein said radio is located on a mobile vehicle.

10. The tuneable radio as defined in claim 9, wherein said radio comprises a car radio.

11. A tuneable radio having an adjustable seek sensitivity, said radio comprising:

a radio receiver for receiving broadcast radio wave signals;

a tuner adjustable for selecting from a plurality of radio wave

5 signal channels;

a detector for detecting signal strength of said radio received wave signals;

- 10 a seek input for initiating a seek operation to seek a radio wave
signal channel having a detected signal strength greater than a seek sensitivity
threshold;
- a device for determining a signal indicative of vehicle travel; and
- 15 a controller for receiving the detected signal strength of said
received signals and said signal indicative of vehicle travel, said controller
determining a seek sensitivity threshold and adjusting the seek sensitivity
threshold when said signal indicative of vehicle travel indicates that the vehicle
has travelled in excess of a minimum distance.

12. The tuneable radio as defined in claim 11, wherein said
device comprises a position indicative receiver for receiving position indicative
signals.

13. The tuneable radio as defined in claim 12, wherein said
position indicative receiver comprises a global positioning system receiver for
receiving global positioning system signals.

14. The tuneable radio as defined in claim 11, wherein said
device comprises a timer for detecting a period of time during which the vehicle
is driven.

15. The tuneable radio as defined in claim 11, wherein said
device comprises an odometer.

16. The tuneable radio as defined in claim 11, wherein said
controller adjusts said seek sensitivity threshold when the tuner is in an inactive
mode.

17. The tuneable radio as defined in claim 16, wherein said controller adjusts said seek sensitivity threshold when the radio is operating in a playback mode.

18. The tuneable radio as defined in claim 11, wherein said radio is located on a mobile vehicle.

19. The tuneable radio as defined in claim 18, wherein said radio comprises a car radio.

20. A method for adjusting seek sensitivity on a tuneable radio, said method comprising the steps of:

receiving broadcast radio wave signals;

5 providing a tuner adjustable for selecting from a plurality of radio wave signal channels;

detecting signal strength for said received radio wave signals; and

adjusting a seek sensitivity threshold based on said detected signal strength.

21. A method as defined in claim 20 further comprising the steps of:

determining a signal indicative of vehicle travel; and

5 adjusting the seek sensitivity value when said signal indicative of vehicle travel indicates that the vehicle has travelled in excess of a minimum distance.

22. The method as defined in claim 21, wherein said step of determining a signal indicative of vehicle travel comprises receiving position indicative signals with a position indicative receiver.

23. The method as defined in claim 22, wherein said step of receiving position indicative signals comprises receiving global positioning system signals with a global positioning system receiver.

24. The method as defined in claim 20 further comprising the step of performing a seek operation by comparing the received signal strength of received signals with said seek sensitivity threshold.

25. The method as defined in claim 20, wherein said step of adjusting the seek sensitivity threshold is performed when the tuner is in an inactive mode.

26. The method as defined in claim 25, wherein said step of adjusting the seek sensitivity threshold is performed when the radio is operating in a playback mode.

27. A method for adjusting seek sensitivity in a tuneable radio, said method comprising the steps of:

- receiving broadcast radio wave signals;
- providing a tuner adjustable for selecting from a plurality of radio
- 5 wave signal channels;
- detecting signal strength for said received broadcast radio wave signals;
- determining a signal indicative of vehicle travel; and
- adjusting a seek sensitivity threshold when said signal indicative of
- 10 vehicle travel indicates that the vehicle has travelled in excess of a minimum distance.

28. A method as defined in claim 22, wherein said step of adjusting the seek sensitivity threshold is based on said signal strength.

29. The method as defined in claim 27 further comprising the step of performing a seek operation by comparing the received signal strength of received signals with said seek sensitivity threshold.

30. The method as defined in claim 27, wherein said step of determining a signal indicative of vehicle travel comprises receiving position indicative signals with a position indicative receiver.

31. The method as defined in claim 30, wherein said step of receiving position indicative signals comprises receiving global positioning system signals with a global positioning system receiver.

32. The method as defined in claim 27, wherein said step of adjusting the seek sensitivity threshold is performed when the tuner is in an inactive mode.

33. The method as defined in claim 32, wherein said step of adjusting the seek sensitivity threshold is performed when the radio is operating in a playback mode.